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# Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 61

NUMBER 11

APPLES AND PEARS (Page 220)

World Meat Situation in 1950-1951 (Page 230)

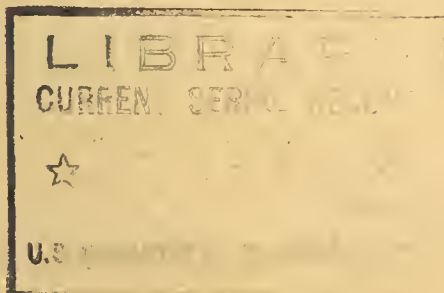
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FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 11, 1950



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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L A T E   N E W S

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Danish cattle and hog numbers on July 15, 1950 showed an increase over the preceding year, according to preliminary returns. Cattle numbers reached 3,044,000 head, compared to 2,949,000 head in July 1949, an increase of 3 percent. Numbers, however, are still more than 8 percent below prewar. Hog numbers on the other hand totaled 3,208,000 head, an increase of 19 percent over the previous year's total of 2,690,000 and about 1 percent above 1939. Bred sows are reported to have increased 11 percent over last year and are now 7 percent above prewar.

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The Canadian Government on August 31 announced the relaxation of import restrictions on many products, mostly industrial. Among the items in the list were pork and pork products. The announcement indicates that the prohibition on importation of fresh pork and preserved bacon, hams, shoulders and other pork will be lifted, effective December 31.

Officials, however, have repeatedly indicated that, as soon as the British bacon contract which calls for 60 million pounds has been filled, the ban on both imports and exports will be removed. This apparently is still the policy of the Government. More than 15 million pounds had been shipped by September 1 and it is possible that the British contract can be filled early in December.

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British Guiana announced licenses will be issued for the importation of unsweetened evaporated milk in reasonable quantities from any source.

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**FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS**

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WORLD APPLE PRODUCTION UP 8 PERCENT: PEARS DOWN 1 PERCENT 1/

World production of apples (including those for cider) for 1950 is indicated to be 585.2 million bushels, 8 percent above the 1949 crop of 540.5 million and 18 percent higher than the prewar average of 498.0 million. The larger crop prospect for 1950 over 1949 is the result of an increase in production of cider apples as the crop (excluding cider apples) of 385.4 million bushels in 1950 compares with 413.6 in 1949 and 334.2 million bushels, in the prewar (1935-39) period.

World pear production (including those for cider) for 1950 is indicated to be 164.1 million bushels, 1 percent below the 165.5 million produced last season and 25 percent above the 1935-39 average of 131.0 million bushels. Pear production, excluding pears for cider, shows more of a decrease in production for 1950, indicated to be 133.9 million bushels, 9 percent below the 1949 crop of 146.8 million but 23 percent above the prewar average of 109.0 million.

Production of apples in North America is estimated at 136.1 million bushels, 12 percent below the 1949 crop of 154.0 million and 5 percent below the 143.1 million produced prewar. Both the United States and Canada show decreases in this year's apple crop. Pear production is also lower in the North American Area. The smaller Canadian crops are the result of freezing of trees in British Columbia during the past winter.

The total apple crop in Europe (including those for cider) is indicated to be 406.8 million bushels, 19 percent above the 1949 crop of 340.7 million and 26 percent above prewar. Apple production (excluding those for cider), estimated at 207.0 million bushels, shows a decline in production of nearly 7 million bushels from the 1949 crop of 213.8 million but is 31 percent above the prewar average of 157.9 million. Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland show substantial increases in production while Belgium, Finland, Western Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands and the United Kingdom are down from the relatively large production in 1949. France has about the same sized crop of dessert and cooking apples in 1950 as in 1949, but the cider crop is estimated at 192.0 million bushels as compared with 118.1 million in 1949.

European pear production estimated at 118.5 million bushels, compares with 111.5 million for 1949 and 83.5 million bushels for the prewar period 1935-39. Pears (excluding those for cider) are indicated to be 88.3 million bushels, a decrease of 5 percent from the 1949 crop of 92.8 million and 44 percent above the prewar average of 61.5 million. Strong winds in Greece held production of apples and pears down but crops in Denmark, Norway and the United Kingdom are very good. Some significant changes from 1949 were due to alternating years. In general there is a steady upward trend in European apple and pear production as new plantings are coming into bearing.

(Text continued on page 226; tables follow)

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1/ A more extensive statement will soon be available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

APPLES: Production in specified countries,  
averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1947-50

Continent and country	Average		1947	1948	1949	1950 <sup>1/</sup>
	1935-39	1940-44				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>						
Canada.....	14,560	13,459	15,619	13,404	18,151	15,691
Mexico.....	1,231	1,831	2,025	2,073	2,151	2,205
United States.....	127,311	113,787	113,041	88,407	133,742	118,227
Total.....	143,102	129,077	130,685	103,884	154,044	136,123
<b>EUROPE</b>						
Austria:						
Dessert and cooking.....	7,095	4,624	6,200	10,242	6,889	7,000
Cider.....	6,291	4,101	2,420	5,374	3,674	3,800
Belgium.....	5,435	6,103	13,779	3,215	18,372	13,779
Bulgaria.....	1,117	3,617	1,766	1,500	2,000	1,700
Czechoslovakia.....	6,931	3,362	9,466	12,242	10,775	9,100
Denmark.....	2,818	4,593	6,889	11,482	7,578	11,500
Finland.....	1,008	503	593	826	367	294
France:						
Dessert and cooking.....	10,499	9,724	16,369	13,411	16,796	16,764
Cider.....	153,973	114,570	73,412	72,323	118,118	192,005
Germany:						
Western Zone.....	36,116	34,099	38,682	24,200	27,900	23,100
Eastern Zone.....	10,788	7,676	8,618	5,400	6,200	5,200
Greece.....	374	564	1,291	1,405	1,539	1,378
Hungary.....	2,145	1,148	1,415	2,067	3,123	2,600
Italy.....	12,923	14,792	22,023	17,379	30,919	26,065
Luxembourg:						
Dessert and cooking.....	193	296	427	300	500	300
Cider.....	93	83	49	25	50	40
Netherlands.....	3,631	4,048	10,978	7,946	14,698	11,390
Norway.....	1,080	798	1,188	1,654	547	2,067
Poland and Danzig.....	8,200	6,600	8,300	6,900	7,300	6,200
Rumania.....	3,255	3,754	2,722	2,296	4,500	3,800
Spain.....	5,411	6,603	5,966	3,996	4,134	3,878
Sweden.....	4,770	3,809	5,603	8,038	7,578	8,084
Switzerland.....	16,452	25,353	17,453	29,854	11,942	28,706
United Kingdom:						
Dessert and cooking.....	10,597	13,831	28,877	19,917	24,180	19,000
Cider.....	3,427	3,256	4,951	3,948	5,026	4,000
Yugoslavia.....	7,098	9,187	7,855	5,000	6,000	5,100
Total.....	321,720	287,094	297,332	270,940	340,705	406,850
Total (excluding cider)....	157,936	165,084	216,500	189,270	213,837	207,005
<b>ASIA</b>						
Lebanon..... <sup>2/</sup>	104	260	597	597	758	600
Palestine.....	65	118	240	200	250	225
Syria..... <sup>3/</sup>	3	8	257	257	321	275
Turkey.....	5,149	3,676	2,709	4,528	5,191	4,500
Japan.....	7,624	10,372	7,073	13,962	15,500	14,000
Korea.....	3,220	5,501	2,378	3,200	2,000	1,000
Total.....	16,162	20,011	13,254	22,744	24,020	20,600
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>						
Argentina.....	1,400	6,135	4,400	8,900	7,300	8,500
Chile.....	1,025	591	827	877	852	900
Total.....	2,425	6,726	5,227	9,777	8,152	9,400
<b>AFRICA</b>						
Tunisia.....	115	136	207	161	200	160
Union of South Africa.....	1,142	1,125	1,250	1,312	1,300	1,300
Total.....	1,257	1,261	1,457	1,473	1,500	1,460
<b>OCEANIA</b>						
Australia.....	10,435	11,741	14,292	8,313	9,052	8,000
New Zealand.....	2,875	2,373	3,240	2,853	3,041	2,800
Total.....	13,310	14,114	17,532	11,166	12,093	10,800
World total.....	497,976	458,283	465,487	419,984	540,514	585,233
World total (excluding cider)....	334,192	336,273	384,655	338,314	413,646	385,388

Estimates in original units of approximately 1 bushel in the following countries: Australia, Canada, Chile, United States, New Zealand, and South Africa. In other countries original estimates, mostly in metric tons, converted to bushels of 48 pounds. <sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes Syria. <sup>3/</sup> Included with Lebanon.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information, and on the basis of postwar boundaries. Harvests in Northern Hemisphere countries are for the year shown and are combined with the harvest in Southern Hemisphere countries of the following year.

PEARS: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39  
and 1940-44, annual 1947-50

Continent and country	Average		1947	1948	1949	1950 <sup>1/</sup>
	1935-39	1940-44				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>						
Canada.....	569:	733:	966:	789:	1,000:	722
Mexico.....	331:	508:	598:	629:	631:	630
United States.....	28,693:	28,908:	35,312:	26,334:	36,404:	28,607
Total.....	29,593:	30,149:	36,876:	27,752:	38,035:	29,959
<b>EUROPE</b>						
Austria.....	6,366:	4,691:	8,342:	6,614:	8,157:	8,200
Belgium.....	2,026:	3,172:	6,614:	1,323:	11,023:	5,511
Bulgaria.....	631:	1,647:	2,000:	1,500:	2,000:	1,600
Czechoslovakia.....	4,070:	1,619:	3,579:	4,123:	4,037:	4,000
Denmark.....	480:	776:	882:	1,190:	1,190:	1,190
France:						
Dessert and cooking.....	1,760:	3,051:	6,639:	4,629:	6,584:	5,908
Cider.....	21,776:	12,453:	11,473:	11,303:	18,459:	30,006
Germany:						
Western Zone.....	11,891:	12,469:	13,091:	6,000:	12,000:	13,700
Eastern Zone.....	3,964:	2,794:	2,943:	1,400:	2,700:	3,100
Greece.....	878:	1,014:	1,221:	988:	1,675:	904
Hungary.....	742:	500:	794:	353:	882:	850
Italy.....	8,859:	9,531:	11,063:	9,316:	14,891:	14,065
Luxembourg.....	100:	208:	277:	200:	300:	250
Netherlands.....	1,570:	2,469:	6,614:	3,263:	6,173:	5,556
Norway.....	174:	137:	121:	297:	93:	309
Poland and Danzig.....	2,200:	1,900:	2,400:	2,000:	2,200:	2,500
Rumania.....	1,103:	1,207:	547:	441:	550:	450
Spain.....	3,057:	2,805:	2,681:	1,905:	1,896:	1,877
Sweden.....	1,063:	771:	794:	794:	1,764:	1,146
Switzerland.....	7,037:	12,654:	16,755:	9,259:	9,700:	13,117
United Kingdom:						
Dessert and cooking.....	782:	1,338:	1,734:	1,416:	1,965:	1,600
Cider.....	237:	349:	332:	99:	235:	200
Yugoslavia.....	2,773:	3,368:	3,088:	2,500:	3,000:	2,500
Total.....	83,539:	80,923:	103,984:	70,913:	111,474:	118,539
Total (excluding cider)....	61,526:	68,121:	92,179:	59,511:	92,780:	88,333
<b>ASIA</b>						
Lebanon..... <sup>2/</sup>	24:	72:	265:	265:	331:	275
Palestine.....	16:	10:	10:	10:	10:	10
Syria..... <sup>3/</sup>	25:	25:	58:	84:	66:	80
Turkey.....	3,466:	2,595:	1,922:	2,608:	3,869:	3,000
Japan.....	7,366:	6,607:	2,337:	2,910:	3,500:	3,000
Korea.....	775:	1,204:	1,850:	2,000:	900:	500
Total.....	11,647:	10,513:	6,442:	7,877:	8,676:	6,865
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>						
Argentina.....	2,443:	5,332:	3,300:	5,100:	3,500:	5,000
Chile.....	88:	58:	100:	105:	100:	110
Total.....	2,531:	5,390:	3,400:	5,205:	3,600:	5,110
<b>AFRICA</b>						
Tunisia.....	53:	45:	62:	44:	70:	60
Union of South Africa.....	832:	675:	800:	540:	700:	600
Total.....	885:	720:	862:	584:	770:	660
<b>OCEANIA</b>						
Australia.....	2,467:	2,714:	3,240:	3,125:	2,616:	2,500
New Zealand.....	328:	347:	444:	461:	367:	450
Total.....	2,795:	3,061:	3,684:	3,586:	2,983:	2,950
World total.....	130,990:	130,756:	155,248:	115,917:	165,538:	164,083
World total (excluding cider)....	108,977:	117,954:	143,443:	104,515:	146,844:	133,877

Estimates in original units of approximately 1 bushel in the following countries: Australia, Canada, Chile, United States, New Zealand, and South Africa. In other countries original estimates, mostly in metric tons, converted to bushels of 50 pounds. <sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.  
<sup>2/</sup> Includes Syria. <sup>3/</sup> Included with Lebanon.

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APPLBS: International trade, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1946-49

Continent and country	Average				1946				1947				1948				1949			
	1935-39		1940-44		Exports		Imports		Exports		Imports		Exports		Imports		Exports		Imports	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
<b>Exporting Countries</b>																				
Canada.....	6,404:	225:	1,755:	122:	4,731:	232:	3,414:	400:	2,265:	60:	3,409:	204:	2,265:	60:	3,409:	204:	2,265:	60:	3,409:	204:
United States.....	9,730:	27:	894:	597:	2,864:	1,038:	4,553:	1,211:	2,138:	1,324:	1,853:	1,519:	2,138:	1,324:	1,853:	1,519:	2,138:	1,324:	1,853:	1,519:
United States 1/.....	149:	0:	168:	0:	147:	0:	182:	0:	54:	0:	56:	0:	54:	0:	56:	0:	54:	0:	56:	0:
Bulgaria.....	296:	0:	53:	0:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:
Denmark.....	44:	105:	229:	3:	209:	85:	311:	0:	941:	0:	55:	0:	941:	0:	55:	0:	941:	0:	55:	0:
France:																				
Table.....	393:	1,425:	333:	68:	50:	561:	217:	168:	109:	814:	256:	145:	109:	814:	256:	145:	109:	814:	256:	145:
Cider.....	1,892:	1:	1,651:	2/:	2/:	116:	126:	8:	311:	0:	1,676:	0:	311:	0:	1,676:	0:	311:	0:	1,676:	0:
Greece.....	14:	1:	2/:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:
Hungary.....	195:	66:	199:	2/:	-:	-:	-:	-:	20:	5:	-:	-:	20:	5:	-:	-:	20:	5:	-:	-:
Italy.....	2,420:	0:	2,479:	0:	768:	0:	2,774:	0:	2,573:	0:	5,618:	0:	2,573:	0:	5,618:	0:	2,573:	0:	5,618:	0:
Netherlands.....	539:	790:	917:	146:	79:	11:	218:	176:	210:	879:	6,085:	62:	210:	879:	6,085:	62:	210:	879:	6,085:	62:
Portugal.....	27:	0:	3:	0:	1:	0:	1:	0:	1:	0:	2:	0:	1:	0:	2:	0:	1:	0:	2:	0:
Rumania.....	6:	0:	2/:	0:	-:	-:	71:	0:	-:	-:	-:	0:	-:	-:	-:	0:	-:	-:	-:	0:
Spain.....	4:3/	25:	16:	0:	14:	0:	25:	0:	9:	0:	-:	0:	-:	0:	-:	0:	-:	0:	-:	0:
Switzerland 4/:																				
Table.....	948:3/	931:	932:	138:	1,893:	231:	930:	466:	2,664:	227:	652:	1,914:	2,664:	227:	652:	1,914:	2,664:	227:	652:	1,914:
Cider.....	381:3/	438:	223:	14:	180:	2:	114:	1:	1,092:	2/:	1,363:	2/:	1,092:	2/:	1,363:	2/:	1,092:	2/:	1,363:	2/:
Yugoslavia.....	1,095:	2:	5/:	5/:	-:	-:	329:	-:	38:	-:	-:	-:	38:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:
Syria and Lebanon 5/.....	55:	9:	23:	1:	114:	2:	272:	6:	44:	2:	101:	18:	44:	2:	101:	18:	44:	2:	101:	18:
Turkey.....	55:	0:	8:	0:	165:	0:	54:	0:	9:	0:	42:	0:	9:	0:	42:	0:	9:	0:	42:	0:
Japan.....	181:	0:	272:	0:	-:	0:	-:	13:	17:	-:	-:	-:	17:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:
Korea (Chosen).....	359:	0:	773:	-:	-:	-:	54:	-:	15:	-:	-:	-:	15:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:
Korea (Chosen) 8/.....	463:	0:	434:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:
Argentina.....	255:	134:	275:	32:	1,105:	0:	885:	0:1/	377:	0:9/	898:	0:	377:	0:1/	898:	0:	377:	0:1/	898:	0:
Chile.....	525:	0:	142:	0:	301:	0:	260:	0:	117:	0:	348:	0:	117:	0:	348:	0:	117:	0:	348:	0:
Union of South Africa.....	274:	59:	218:	9:	141:	-:	-:	-:	141:	0:	-:	-:	141:	0:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:
Australia 10/.....	4,017:	0:	92:	0:	1,455:	0:	807:	0:	2,933:	0:	1,852:	0:	2,933:	0:	1,852:	0:	2,933:	0:	1,852:	0:
New Zealand.....	893:	4:	103:	0:	253:	2/:	5:	0:	819:	0:	524:	-:	819:	0:	524:	-:	819:	0:	524:	-:
Total.....	31,614:	4,242:	12,192:	1,130:	14,470:	2,278:	15,602:	2,449:	16,897:	3,306:	24,795:	3,862:	16,897:	3,306:	24,795:	3,862:	16,897:	3,306:	24,795:	3,862:



PEARS: International trade, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1946-49

Continent and country	Average				1946				1947				1948				1949			
	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :	Exports : 1,000 : bushels :	Imports : 1,000 : bushels :				
<b>Exporting Countries</b>																				
United States.....	2,645:	42:	313:	207:	1,588:	343:	1,902:	148:	375:	32:	418:	312	375:	32:	418:	312				
Belgium.....	238:	176:	35:	9:	3:	121:	1,341:	48:	143:	273:	513:	115	143:	273:	513:	115				
Czechoslovakia.....	223:	15:	-	-	62:	1/	58:	48:2/	45:	-	70:	-	45:	-	70:	-				
Italy.....	1,164:	0:	869:	0:	1,742:	0:	1,174:	0:	2,493:	0:	3,124:	0	2,493:	0:	3,124:	0				
Netherlands.....	94:	147:	201:	12:	286:	1:	749:	99:	712:	18:	2,608:	69	712:	18:	2,608:	69				
China.....	214:	0:	74:	3/	47:	-	71:	-	32:	-	-	-	32:	-	-	-				
Argentina.....	650:	1:	463:	0:	1,057:	0:	818:	0:4/	507:	0:5/	741:	0	507:	0:5/	741:	0				
Chile.....	21:	0:	11:	0:	11:	0:	21:	0:	9:	0:	6:	0	9:	0:	6:	0				
Union of South Africa.....	682:	0:	134:	0:	110:	0:	259:	0:	462:	0:	373:	0	462:	0:	373:	0				
Australia 6/.....	568:	0:	3:	0:	42:	0:	161:	0:	360:	0:	558:	0	360:	0:	558:	0				
New Zealand.....	72:	0:	1/	0:	1/	0:	1/	0:	18:	0:	-	0	18:	0:	-	0				
Total.....	6,571:	381:	2,103:	228:	4,948:	465:	6,554:	343:	5,156:	323:	8,411:	496	5,156:	323:	8,411:	496				
<b>Importing Countries</b>																				
Canada.....	1/	394:	1/	200:	5:	390:	4:	427:	2:	0:	5:	119	427:	2:	0:	5:				
Mexico.....	0:	8:	0:	14:	0:	36:	0:	32:	0:	3:	0:	3	32:	0:	3:	0:				
Panama, Republic of.....	0:	9:	0:	11:	0:	5:	0:	7:	0:	6:	0:	8	7:	0:	6:	0:				
Cuba.....	0:	25:	0:	24:	0:	46:	0:	56:	0:	61:	0:	65	56:	0:	61:	0:				
Austria.....	1/ : 8/	257:	9/	9/	-	-	-	129:	-	155:	1/	351	129:	-	155:	1/				
Denmark.....	1/ :	15:	3:	2:	0:	1/	0:	0:	1:	0:	0:	27	0:	1:	0:	27				
Finland.....	1/ :	55:	-	2:	0:	21:	106:	2:	27:	7:	199:	50	27:	7:	199:	50				
France.....	42:	828:	265:	422:	-	46:	-	74:	0:	181:	0:	2,365	74:	0:	181:	0:				
Germany.....	1:	337:	1/	86:	0:	568:	0:	381:	0:	206:	0:	161	381:	0:	206:	0:				
Sweden.....	0:	2,582:	0:	128:	0:	2,053:	0:	4,689:	0:	3,429:	0:	4,785	4,689:	0:	3,429:	0:				
United Kingdom 10/.....	0:	70:	0:	3/	0:	3/	0:	34:	0:	44:	0:	62	34:	0:	44:	0:				
Ireland (Eire).....	0:	11:	-	10:	-	3:	-	8:	-	11:	-	2	-	-	11:	2				
Philippines, Republic of.....	- : 8/	25:	0:	2:	0:	31:	0:11/	85:	0:11/	121:	0:	1/ 11/	0:11/	0:	121:	0:				
Palestine.....	0:	121:	0:	57:	0:	44:	0:	65:	0:	26:	0:	7	65:	0:	26:	0:				
Hong Kong.....	0:	76:	0:	28:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Kwantung.....	0:	246:	0:	261:	0:	603:	0:	470:	0:	568:	0:	497	470:	0:	568:	0:				
Brazil.....	1/ :	62:	0:	5:	0:	5:	0:	20:	0:	2:	0:	-	20:	0:	2:	0:				
Egypt.....	1/ :	9:	1/	1:	1/	5:	1/	5:	0:	5:	0:	-	5:	0:	5:	0:				
French Morocco.....	1/ :	5,594:	268:	1,272:	28:	3,856:	110:	6,484:	30:	4,826:	204:	8,519	6,484:	30:	4,826:	204:				
Total.....	43:	5,975:	2,371:	1,500:	4,976:	4,321:	6,664:	6,827:	5,186:	5,149:	8,615:	9,015	6,827:	5,186:	5,149:	8,615:				
Grand total.....																				
1/ Less than 500 bushels. 2/ Eight months. 3/ Not available. 4/ Nine months. 5/ Six months. 6/ Fiscal year. 7/ Reported in value only. 8/ Less than 5 years. 9/ Included with Germany. 10/ Reexports deducted. 11/ Israel.																				

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Trade statistics on pears for Norway, Switzerland and Indo China included with apples.

Production statistics for both apples and pears for Asia, South America, Africa and Oceania are based on trends, since it is too early to obtain production statistics from these areas.

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Apples.-- Exports of apples from the principal exporting countries of the world amounted to 25.6 million bushels in 1949, 40 percent above the 1948 export of 18.4 million but 21 percent lower than the prewar average of 32.3 million. Seven countries, namely: Australia, Canada, France, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States supplied 22.8 million bushels or 89 percent of the indicated export.

Imports into the principal importing countries of the world amounted in 1949 to 22.9 million bushels, the chief importers being Germany, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, the United States, Brazil, Czechoslovakia and Belgium.

Pears.-- Exports from the principal exporting countries of the world are indicated to be 8.6 million bushels, of which Italy and the Netherlands supplied the bulk. Imports into the chief importing countries amounted to 9.0 million bushels, of which the United Kingdom and Germany took 7.2 million or 79 percent of the total import.--By Ruth G. Tucker, based largely upon reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers in the countries referred to.

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## COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

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### TROPICAL PRODUCTS

#### INDONESIA'S PEPPER PRODUCTION HIGHER

Indonesia's 1950 production of both black and white pepper now is forecast at 17,860,000 pounds, almost double the revised estimate of 9,260,000 pounds for the 1949 harvest, according to the American Embassy in Djakarta. Production of black pepper is expected to total about 17,640,000 pounds in 1950 compared with 8,820,000 pounds in 1949. White pepper output is forecast at only 220,000 pounds in 1950 compared with 440,000 pounds in 1949.

The 1950 pepper harvest began in July. It was delayed about a month because of unusually dry weather. The quality of the pepper is somewhat lower than last year, and the pepper kernels are smaller. On July 1, 1950 old stocks of black pepper in Indonesia were estimated at about 3,090,000 pounds and old stocks of white pepper at around 3,970,000 pounds.

Exports of pepper from Indonesia amounted to 6,193,000 pounds in 1949, compared with 3,977,000 pounds in 1948 and a prewar (1935-39) annual average of 129,300,000 pounds. In the prewar period, Indonesia supplied about 90 percent of world pepper exports. Most of Indonesia's pepper vines were destroyed during the Japanese occupation, and India became the most important source of black pepper. However, there has been a steady increase in the number of pepper plants set out in Indonesia since 1946 and it is believed that Indonesia will regain its former position as the leading pepper producing country within a few years.

### GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

#### CANADIAN MILLINGS SHOW

#### LITTLE CHANGE FROM 1948-49

The 1949-50 wheat flour production in Canada was virtually unchanged from the year before, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The output of 20.3 million barrels, however, was about 20 percent below the average of the 5 years ended July 1948, when millings were unusually large to meet heavy export requirements. Flour exports during that period averaged 14.5 million compared with 10.1 million barrels for the season just ended.

CANADA: Wheat milled, flour produced, and flour exports,  
1948-49 and 1949-50

Month	Wheat milled		Flour produced		Flour exported	
	1948-49:	1949-50:	1948-49 :	1949-50 :	1948-49 :	1949-50
	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000
	bushels:	bushels:	barrels :	barrels :	barrels :	barrels
August.....:	7,354:	7,828:	1,620:	1,750:	943:	866
September.....:	9,811:	8,255:	2,174:	1,857:	816:	838
October.....:	8,808:	8,302:	1,959:	1,859:	1,446:	720
November.....:	8,617:	8,691:	1,937:	1,951:	1,212:	980
December.....:	7,691:	7,233:	1,728:	1,628:	845:	844
January.....:	6,524:	6,898:	1,468:	1,550:	835:	729
February.....:	6,499:	7,101:	1,462:	1,606:	685:	789
March.....:	7,574:	8,235:	1,716:	1,851:	803:	825
April.....:	7,028:	7,275:	1,587:	1,628:	748:	684
May.....:	6,967:	7,530:	1,570:	1,695:	840:	1,163
June.....:	7,373:	7,308:	1,666:	1,650:	717:	893
July.....:	6,424:	5,642:	1,443:	1,279:	798:	712
Total.....:	1/90,897:	90,298:	1/ 20,380:	20,304:	1/ 10,798:	10,043

1/ Revised totals for which corresponding revisions by months are not available.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Flour output in July reached the lowest point of any month since July 1940. That low outturn of 1.3 million barrels in 1949-50 was about 35 percent below the year's high point of 2.0 million barrels reached in November. The record output during the high production period of the past 5 years was in May 1947 when slightly more than 2.6 million barrels were produced. In addition to 90.3 million bushels of wheat milled for flour, 1.9 million bushels of feed wheat were ground in the year ended July 1950.

Coarse grains ground the past season were about 5 percent less than in 1948-49, on a tonnage basis, and were considerably below the average of the past 5 years. Grindings of oats, the largest item, amounted to 19.8 million bushels compared with the average of 24.4 million for the past 5 seasons. Mixed grains, second in importance in coarse grain grindings, totaling 18.1 million bushels, were also well below the recent average, as was barley. Corn ground, however, at 3.2 million bushels, was above average.

CANADA: Grindings of coarse grains,  
1949-50 with comparisons

Year beginning: August 1 :	Oats	Barley	Mixed grains	Corn	Feed wheat	Other grains <u>1/</u>
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
1944-45....	23,764	8,066	26,787	1,873	2/	260
1945-46....	25,959	8,046	26,519	2,020	2/	140
1946-47....	29,888	9,755	25,232	2,361	3,587	129
1947-48....	22,980	9,571	18,272	1,515	3,557	40
1948-49....	19,586	8,609	19,074	2,329	1,833	109
Average...	24,435	8,809	23,177	2,020	3/2,992	136
1949-50....	19,845	6,051	18,103	3,213	1,894	118

1/ Includes rye and buckwheat. 2/ Not reported separately. 3/ Average of 3 years reported.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Mills reporting operations during the past year worked at 67.8 percent of their combined rated capacity. This is a weighted average for the year ended July 1950.

# THAILAND'S RICE EXPORTS AT HIGH LEVEL

Thailand's rice exports during the first 6 months of 1950 totaled 1,663 million pounds, compared with 1,600 million pounds during the corresponding period of 1949, according to official statistics. The principal destinations were Japan, Malaya, Hong Kong, Portuguese Macao, and China. Rice exports to Western Hemisphere countries are noted for the first time since World War II. These consisted of 13 million pounds to Canada, 2 million to Jamaica, 1 million to Costa Rica, and 93,000 pounds to other South America.

THAILAND: Rice (milled) exports by country of destination,  
January-June 1950

Country	Exports January- June 1950	Country	Exports January- June 1950
	Million pounds		Million pounds
Malaya.....	394	Kuwait.....	5
Hong Kong.....	125	Port Said.....	1
Ceylon.....	67	Portuguese Macao....	99
Sarawak.....	13	South Africa.....	2
North Borneo.....	6	East Africa.....	15
Dutch Borneo.....	3	Ethiopia.....	2
United Kingdom.....	55	Japan.....	581
Eire.....	4	China.....	47
Denmark.....	2	Formosa.....	57
Norway.....	1	Indonesia.....	50
Netherlands.....	65	Philippines.....	14
New Guinea.....	6	Canada.....	13
Jedda (Arabia).....	11	Jamaica.....	2
Malta.....	1	Costa Rica.....	1
Cyprus.....	1	Infested rice.....	17
Beirut.....	3	Others.....	1/
		Total.....	1,663

1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Compiled from official statistics.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTSWORLD MEAT SITUATION  
IN 1950 AND 1951

For the next year or so, the world meat situation, particularly with regard to production, is expected to continue to improve over 1949 as output in Europe is further restored. The demand for meat, on the other hand, is very strong in those countries with a high level of employment, especially in the United States and Canada. In the event of appreciable mobilization in these countries, set-asides for the military services, rationing and price control for civilians, and import and export controls would be necessary for equitable distribution.

The world meat output in 1950 and 1951 is very likely to exceed the 1949 production of 68.3 billion pounds which was estimated to be slightly larger than the prewar average. The further improvement in the meat situation is based upon a normal feed outlook, high meat prices, an increase in livestock (cattle, hogs, sheep) numbers at the beginning of 1950 when all species reflected gains over the previous year. Domestic meat supplies even in most of the importing countries are expected to be larger than last year. Although meat output for 1950 and 1951 is expected to be larger, the per capita meat consumption of the world would still be about 5 percent below prewar as the population since 1940 has significantly increased.

With consumer income continuing at the present high level and under normal or above normal growing conditions the world meat output in 1950 and 1951 can be expected to be held at a relatively high level and even to surpass that of 1949. The continuance of high prices for meat and some indication of a favorable feed situation will in all likelihood encourage livestock producers in the principal producing countries to expand or in other countries to continue their recovery of cattle and hog numbers. High prices for wool due to the limited quantities available to consumers are tending to increase sheep numbers, thereby increasing the potential supply of mutton and lamb in the principal sheep producing countries.

Since the 1950 and 1951 meat output is expected to exceed both prewar and 1949 production, the increase will be reflected mostly in pork production and to a lesser extent in beef and veal. The largest gains in pork, beef and veal are likely to occur in Europe and the Soviet Union. New Zealand and Australia appear to be the principal countries where mutton and lamb may be expected to increase. Out of a total meat output of 68.3 billion pounds in 1949, beef and veal production made up 52 percent, as compared with 49 percent in the 1934-38 period. Pork supplies for the same period represented about 38 percent compared with 41 percent in the prewar period. Mutton and lamb constituted about 8.8 percent in 1949 and 9.1 percent in the earlier period.

The quantity of meat entering international trade in 1950 is likely to be very close to the 1949 level. The exports in 1949 increased, which reversed the downward movement begun in 1947. Generally, this indicates a larger domestic production within most of the meat producing countries. On this basis, it can be assumed that there will be a falling off in import requirements in Europe, except for the United Kingdom and a few other European countries. If consumer purchasing power continues to be high in 1951, it is likely that a proportionately larger quantity of the production increase will be reflected in domestic consumption and a smaller quantity will go into foreign trade channels.

By 1951, barring a widespread war, most countries are likely to be approaching their prewar levels and patterns of consumption and trade. The principal sources of meat supplies will continue to be Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Uruguay, Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands and Canada. The United Kingdom, on the other hand, will continue to be the large importer of meat.

Present defense preparations in the United States and in the Atlantic Pact nations are not likely to have any material effect on the world meat output in 1950, but further intensification of these activities may stimulate the production of pork in 1951, particularly in the United States.

Outbreak of war involving the major powers of western Europe would have the immediate effect of increasing slaughter in the first year or year and a half and thereby possibly reducing demands on exporting countries. This is made possible by the relatively rapid recovery of livestock numbers since the end of World War II.

Government controls for purposes of conservation of supplies and assuring larger distribution of meat to armed services are very likely to reduce somewhat supplies available for civilian consumption. Such action would likewise step-up exports from supplying countries and increase the quantity of meat flowing into trade channels primarily for the military services abroad provided sea lanes are kept open---  
By Elmer A. Reese.

#### AUSTRALIAN WOOL AUCTION OPENS 40 TO 50 PERCENT HIGHER

Wool prices at the Sydney Auction last week opened 40 to 50 percent above June closing in what was described by brokers and buyers on hand as the "most amazing opening sale" in their memory.

Wool similar (medium crossbred combing) to that which sold for .34 cents in August 1949, and .58 cents in June 1950, brought .86 cents in the grease on the opening day last week.

The world supply situation and spot prices in late July and early August indicated there would be an increase, but the extent of the rise surprised the most seasoned observers.

The opening prices are not indicative of season prices but do represent a level around which prices will probably hinge.

Immediate reaction in Australia was an increase in land value, prediction of decreased mutton supply and the beginning of moves by the Government to curb inflation.

#### FATS AND OILS

##### ARGENTINA EXPANDS FLAXSEED ACREAGE: INCREASES EXPORTS

Argentina's 1950-51 flaxseed acreage is estimated at about 3.7 million acres compared with 2.7 million last season, according to G. J. Dietz, United States Embassy, Buenos Aires. Assuming normal yields and average abandonments, the coming harvest should approximately 35.5 million bushels. In the important producing areas seedings are taking place under favorable conditions and with a sufficient supply of subsoil moisture. Germination is good, but colder weather will be necessary to strengthen young plants and to prevent weed growth.

Shipment of flaxseed was renewed this year with liftings for the first 6 months totaling 960,000 bushels. The United Kingdom took an advance of 803,000 bushels against the Argentine commitment to sell flaxseed beginning July 1, 1950. France took 157,000 bushels.

January-June shipments of linseed oil reached 88,180 short tons against 4,050 in the same months of 1949. Principal destinations were the United Kingdom 70 percent and France 12 percent.

The large linseed oil contracts with the United Kingdom, France, and Germany, reported previously, are awaiting fulfillment. Total disappearance this year may be somewhat larger than oil output. Sale of 8,800 tons was negotiated with the Netherlands. The outlook remains obscure, but most observers see little prospect of shipment above 185,000 tons this year under present conditions.

##### PARAGUAY'S 1950 INDUSTRIAL OILSEED AND OIL SUPPLY

Paraguay's industrial vegetable oils are tung, castor, palm, and palm kernel oils. Tung oil and castor oil are primarily for export. About 40 percent of the palm oil is used for domestic soap production and the balance is exported, according to W.F. Lebus, American Embassy, Asuncion.

Tung nut production of about 4,500 short tons in 1950 was below expectations due to excessive rainfall during the latter part of the growing season. Based on the usual rate of extraction (15 to 16 percent), this crop should produce around 700 tons of oil.

The official minimum price for tung nuts has been set at .45 guarani per kilogram (U.S. \$132 per short ton), delivered to the mills; however, as much as .60 guarani (\$175) is being paid in some areas. The July export price for Paraguayan tung oil was U.S. \$380 per short ton f.o.b. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Under the system of compensation payments previously in effect it was possible for the exporter of tung oil, as was the case with practically all exports, to receive the greater portion of the proceeds in foreign exchange. These funds could be used to import foreign products or could be sold for local currency at curb market prices considerably in excess of the official rate of exchange. On November 5, 1949, it became necessary to convert all foreign exchange at the Bank of Paraguay. The rate applicable to tung oil is 6.02 guaranis to U.S. \$1 (16.6 cents). Most exporters maintain that this rate of exchange does not permit a sufficient return on the capital invested.

Paraguayan producers have experienced no difficulty in selling tung oil, and it appears now that practically all of the oil from the 1950 harvest will be sold in the United States or other hard currency areas.

Local tung oil producers agree that there is no incentive under existing conditions for them to continue production unless the foreign exchange received for their oil can be converted to the domestic currency at a more favorable rate. In view of the Paraguayan Government's efforts to combat inflation it is unlikely that a price increase will be granted. The principal reason that production continues is the fact that tung oil processing occurs at a time when other oils are not being refined and the same laborers and machinery can be used, thus avoiding an interruption of production. With increased production costs and a continually rising cost of living it may well be that production will have to be curtailed since it is hardly worth the while of farmers to market the fruit at the relatively low prices offered.

Paraguay's 1950 castor bean harvest, estimated at 2,800 tons, is about 18 percent below last year. The reduced output is the result of heavy rains during early 1950 and low prices at harvest.

The castor oil industry in Paraguay had become relatively important in 1949, due largely to the compensation system of payments which allowed the producer a sizeable financial return from his exports. With rising production costs, however, it is impossible for the producer to realize a return more than sufficient for operational expenses. If the Bank of Paraguay increases the rate of exchange to compensate exporters for foreign sales of domestic vegetable oil, it is likely that production will increase; however, at present there is little to indicate that such action will be taken.

Trade sources estimate that about 770 tons of palm oil and 990 tons of palm kernel oil will be produced in Paraguay in 1950. These estimates represent a considerable decline from last year's outturn of 2,300 and 3,400 tons, respectively.

It is estimated that approximately 60 percent of Paraguayan palm oil and palm kernel oil production will be available for export after requirements of domestic soap manufacturers have been met. The 1949 ban on the exportation of such items has been lifted, provided exporters are able to supply 4 kilogram (8.8 pounds) of vegetable or animal fat, suitable for use in the manufacture of soap, for every kilogram of oil exported. The export price for oil having an acidity of 2 percent is equivalent to about U.S. \$195 per short ton and that with an acidity of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  percent, U.S. \$213 per short ton, f.o.b. Buenos Aires, Argentina. The rate of compensation in local currency authorized by the Bank of Paraguay for sales abroad of these oils is 6.02 guaranis per U.S. \$1 (16.6 cents). As is the case with other vegetable oils, the compensation granted the producer and exporter is insufficient to warrant expanded output. The quality of palm oil and palm kernel oil continues to be good, and sales undoubtedly will be made readily.

Unless some remedial action is taken for the purpose of affording producers a greater financial return on sales of palm oil and palm kernel oil, a further reduction in production is quite probable. The Paraguayan Government is endeavoring to prevent further inflationary trends and consequently is insisting upon strict adherence to the officially set rates of exchange. If, on the other hand, the export prices were raised beyond their present base it is unlikely that Paraguayan oils could compete effectively on the world market. Hence, it is obvious that producers and exporters are confronted with an extremely difficult situation, and expansion of the industry is not likely to take place soon.

#### CEYLON'S COPRA, COCONUT OIL PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS DOWN SHARPLY

Ceylon's production and exports of copra and coconut oil during the first 6 months of 1950 were down sharply from the corresponding period of 1949, W.H. Schoellkopf, Jr., American Embassy, Colombo, reports.

Coconut production during the first half of the year is estimated to have been 20 to 25 percent below normal. (Around 2 billion nuts a year are produced normally.) The drop is attributed to insufficient and poor distribution of rainfall during 1949 and early 1950. Production during the last half of the year is expected to improve greatly because of recent rains, but the output for the year probably will be below normal.

Lower production and Government controls reduced exports during the January-June period. Copra shipments, practically all to Pakistan, amounted to 1,449 long tons compared with 11,729 during the corresponding period of 1949. Coconut oil shipments amounted to 22,076 tons

against 42,931 in 1949 (6 months). The Netherlands, Pakistan, and Canada were the principal markets, taking 9,906, 4,847, and 3,066 tons, respectively.

Total exports of copra and coconut oil, copra equivalent, during the first half of 1950 were 36,490 tons compared with 79,873 tons during January-June 1949.

Stocks as of June 30, 1950, are reported at 21,000 tons of copra and 9,500 of coconut oil, considerably higher than at the end of the first quarter due to the Government's ban on exports of copra (except for the small volume to Pakistan) and the virtual ban on coconut oil exports due to the high minimum price set by the Controller of Exports, which was above world prices.

Wholesale prices of coconut oil dropped from 1,410 rupees per long ton (\$295) on April 6 to a low of 1,100 rupees (\$230) on June 23 because the high export price decreased foreign purchases. The price began to rise as soon as export controls on copra and coconut oil cake were removed as of June 30. On August 14 the quotation was 1,475 rupees (\$309).

The average f.o.b. price for all coconut oil exports during the second quarter of 1950 was 1,657 rupees per long ton (\$347).

Copra wholesale prices dropped from 185-200 rupees per candy of 560 pounds (\$155-168 per long ton) on April 3 to 160-165 rupees (\$134-138) on June 26. With the removal of price controls on coconut oil cake on June 30 and the rise in the price of coconut oil, copra prices rose to 217.50-220.00 rupees (\$182-184) by August 10.

A new schedule of export duties on various coconut products became effective July 1, coincident with the removal of export and price controls. The old and new duties are given below:

Commodity	Unit	Dec. 20, 1949 to June 30, 1950		July 1, 1950	
		Rupees	Dollars	Rupees	Dollars
		:	:	:	:
Copra.....	long ton	150.00	31.42	300.00	62.85
Coconut oil.....	long ton	243.75	51.00	243.75	51.00
Fresh coconuts.....	thousand	84.00	17.60	42.00	8.80
Desiccated coconut	pound	0.10	.02	0.10	.02
Poonac (coconut oil cake	long ton	export prohibited		100.00	20.95

The doubling of the export duty on copra has served to take the place of the embargo on the export of copra. Because the duty is so high, most of the copra will be used locally for making oil or desiccated coconut. The coconut oil duty remained unchanged, but the doubling of the copra duty makes it more profitable to ship oil. The removal of the export ban and the end of price control on poonac (coconut oil cake) permits the oil miller to pay a little more for his copra because the value of the by-product has increased.

The outlook for the Ceylon copra/coconut oil industry appears good for the next quarter considering the increasing demand and rising prices. Production in the last 2 quarters is expected to be at a much higher rate; definite signs of increased yields already have appeared.

#### ARGENTINA EXPORTS SIZEABLE VOLUME OF TUNG OIL

Tung oil exports from Argentina during January-June 1950 amounted to 7,000 short tons compared with only 509 tons during the corresponding period of 1949 and 9,127 tons for the year, reports G.J. Dietz, American Embassy, Buenos Aires. The United States was the chief buyer, lifting 5,837 tons or 83 percent of the total. Most of the balance was taken by the United Kingdom, 724 tons, and Finland, 149 tons.

Due to the closing of Chinese ports, demand for Argentine tung oil has been exceptionally strong. Quantities moved easily during the latter half of 1949 and first half of 1950. Carry-over on June 30, 1950 was small, with perhaps 500 to 1,000 tons in the hands of the Argentine Trade Promotion Institute (IAPI).

Production estimates of tung nuts and oil for 1950 remain unchanged at about 45,000 and 7,000 tons, respectively (See Foreign Crops and Markets, Volume 60, No. 15, April 10, 1950). In 1949 around 10,500 tons of oil were extracted from 65,000 tons of nuts.

IAPI buys tung oil from crushers at 2,600 pesos per metric ton (\$702 per short ton converted at the rate of 3.358 pesos to 1 U.S. dollar) delivered in bulk to Buenos Aires. Recent sales to the United States were made at around 3,300 pesos per metric ton f.o.b. Buenos Aires. At the applicable exchange rate of 7.1964 pesos to 1 U.S. dollar (special preferential), these prices were equivalent to approximately 22 U.S. cents per pound. 1/

Crushers anticipate that IAPI soon may increase its buying price, but no official indication of such a step has been forthcoming. Growers are pushing for 260 pesos per metric ton (\$70 per short ton) for nuts instead of the current price of 220 pesos (\$59). If such increases are granted, it is possible that the export price may be raised accordingly.

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1/ Effective August 29, new exchange rates per U.S. dollar were established as follows: Basic, 5 pesos; preferential, 7.5 pesos, (See article headed "Argentina Again Devalues Peso" on Page 239 of this issue of Foreign Crops and Markets).

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERCOTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS  
ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports.

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1950	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound	Export and inter- mediate taxes
<u>Alexandria</u>		:Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good.....	9-7	: 99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	77.10	: 44.69	: 5.91
Ashmouni, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	(not quoted)		
Karnak, Good.....	"	: "	: "	92.80	: 53.79	: 5.91
Karnak, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	(not quoted)		
<u>Bombay</u>		:Candy				
Jarila, Fine.....	"	: 784 lbs.	: Rupee	770.00	: 20.50	: 5.32
Broach Vijay, Fine.....	"	: "	: "	840.00	: 22.36	: 5.32
<u>Karachi 1/</u>		:Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine....	9-6	: 82.28 lbs.	: "	93.00	: 34.10	: 4.62
289F Sind, SG, Fine....	"	: "	: "	99.00	: 36.30	: 4.62
<u>Buenos Aires</u>		:Metric ton				
Type B.....	9-7	: 2204.6 lbs.	: Peso	4350.00	: 26.31	: 2.55
<u>Lima</u>		:Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2....	9-5	: 101.4 lbs.	: Sol	490.00	: 31.75	: 15.94
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	2/ 465.00	: 30.13	: 14.29
Pima, Type 1.....	"	: "	: "	583.00	: 37.77	: 20.78
<u>Recife</u>		:Arroba				
Mata, Type 4.....	9-6	: 33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	270.00	: 44.42	: 5.40
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	(not available)		
Sertao, Type 4.....	"	: "	: "	285.00	: 46.89	: 5.70
<u>Sao Paulo</u>						
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	276.00	: 45.41	: 2-1/2% ad
<u>Torreón</u>		:Sp. quintal				: valorem
Middling, 15/16".....	9-7	: 101.4 lbs.	: Peso	295.00	: 33.66	: 4.14
<u>Houston-Galveston-New</u>						
Orleans av. Mid. 15/16":	"	: Pound	: Cent	XXXXX	: 40.43	: ----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U. S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Karachi, 289F Punjab, SG, Fine, 100.00 (36.66 U.S. cents), tax 4.62-U.S. cents.  
2/ Nominal.

# SISAL PRODUCTION INCREASES IN PORTUGUESE WEST AFRICA

Production of sisal for export in 1949 in Angola, Portuguese West Africa, was 42.6 million pounds or 22 percent greater than the 1948 export crop of 34.9 million pounds. The bulk of the crop is exported, with only 1 or 2 million pounds being retained annually for domestic consumption in the manufacture of twine, cord, and rope. Production in 1947 was 23.2 million pounds, and prewar production in 1939 was 14.2 million pounds.

The sisal area under cultivation in 1950 is estimated at approximately 110,000 acres or an increase of about 17,000 acres in the past 2 years. Not all this area is in production. Part of it is new plantings which will not mature until 1953 or 1954, and a substantial percentage consists of land that is to be cleared of over-age plants and replanted.

Mechanical methods of cultivation and harvesting have been introduced quite extensively since 1947. These machines not only help in overcoming the native labor shortage but also to develop a standard export grade of improved quality.

Sisal was exported from Angola in 1949 principally to Germany, France, the United States, Portugal, and Belgium-Luxembourg.

## ANGOLA: Sisal exports in 1949, by countries

Countries of destination	Sisal	Sisal waste	Total
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Germany.....	14,187	58	14,245
France.....	9,574	167	9,741
United States.....	5,310	1,186	6,496
Belgium-Luxembourg..	3,720	156	3,876
Portugal.....	1,861	2,076	3,937
United Kingdom.....	1,634	-	1,634
Norway.....	1,123	-	1,123
Czechoslovakia.....	817	-	817
Other countries.....	759	0	759
Total.....	38,985	3,643	42,628

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Exports of Angolan sisal in the first 5 months of 1950 were 21.6 million pounds, or 41 percent greater than in the corresponding period of 1949. Sisal ranked third among the country's exports in 1949, and the continued increase into 1950 assures a high place this year. A harvest of approximately 45 million pounds is forecast.

Angolan sisal production is increasing in importance. It is small compared with the nearly 360 million pounds produced in British East Africa in 1949, but of the many countries producing sisal, Angola ranked third with only British East Africa and Brazil ranking higher. In 1946 Angola ranked fourth with nearly 7 percent of the world total, and before World War II it ranked fifth with only about 2 percent. The small postwar production in Indonesia has shifted demand to other countries and production in Angola and Brazil has shown the greatest increase.--- By Cecille M. Protzman, based on a report by H. Biggane, American Vice Consul, Luanda.

#### FOREIGN TRADE

##### ARGENTINA AGAIN DEVALUES PESO

Argentina has again devalued the peso and at the same time reduced the number of its exchange rates. The new rates in pesos-per-dollar are: Basic export and preferential import, 5 pesos; basic import and preferential export, 7.50; official free established initially around 14.25.

The basic export rate includes fresh and frozen beef, mutton, dried blood, hides, wool, grains, flour, milling products, oilseeds, vegetable oils, oilcakes, and cotton. The preferential export rate includes pork and products, salted and canned meats, leather, dairy products, casein, tung oil, quebracho, combed wool, many animal by-products, frozen fowl and variety of manufactures. The free rate applies to exports of fresh and preserved fruit, eggs, fish, beverages, tungsten, woolen and leather manufactures, and financial transactions. The import commodity lists for the three rates are not yet available.

It may be interesting to note how much the exchange rates were lowered. The following table gives the exchange rate in cents-per-peso for certain selected export commodities, together with the percent of devaluation from the rate in effect a year ago, and just prior to the recent devaluation.

Commodity	Rate effective Sept. 11, 1950	Percent devaluation as compared with rates in effect prior to:	
		August 30, 1950	Sept. 11, 1949
<u>Basic rate:</u>			
Beef, mutton, grains, oilseeds.....	20¢ per peso	33	33
Raw wool, hides.....	20¢ " "	3 1/3	33
<u>Preferential rate:</u>			
Combed wool, dairy products, casein, quebracho.....	13 1/3¢ per peso	24 1/2	47
Tung oil, leather.....	13 1/3¢ " "	4 2/3	33
<u>Free rate:</u>			
Eggs, fish.....	7¢ per peso	60	not available
Fresh fruit	7¢ " "	50	not available
Financial transactions.	7¢ " "	36 1/3	65

The devaluation of October 1, 1949 was followed by a series of price increases for major export commodities, which to some extent counteracted the currency devaluation. Thus far no price increases have been announced following changes in exchange rates.

The announcement of new exchange rates is in line with other measures intended to increase Argentina's dollar earnings, attract foreign capital and expand foreign trade. In August 1950, the Peron Government had allocated \$500 million for the import of essential commodities, granted import and exchange permits on a greatly expanded scale, and lifted the 2-year statistical blackout on trade, financial, and production figures.

As has been the case for quite some time, processed exports are favored by higher exchange rates than raw products, thus benefiting Argentine industry at the expense of agriculture. The new rates will help to move Argentine exports at a time when the price revisions under the Anglo-Argentine Trade Agreement are still the subject of controversy.---By Doris D. Rafler.

